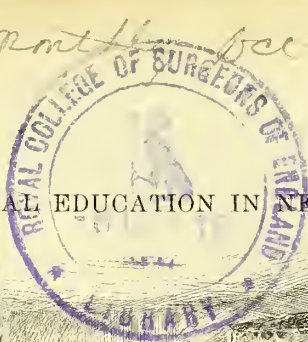


Harpermont Dec 1852



16

MEDICAL EDUCATION IN NEW YORK.



AN INTERRUPTED DISSECTION.

THE village physician of the colonial period was usually the village parson also, and if he lacked success in healing the body, he made atonement in the zeal with which he sought the soul's salvation. His pharmacopœia and operations were primitively simple. His knowledge was small in quantity, largely empirical, and inexact in quality. A popular sentiment debarred him from the practice of obstetrics, which was limited to midwives, and all that he knew was acquired from the old country. Many years passed before efforts were instituted to provide systematic courses of instruction, and according to Dunglison's interesting *History of Medicine*, the earliest lessons in the science given in America were the anatomical demonstrations of Dr. Thomas Cadwalader at Philadelphia. In 1750 a body was dissected by students in New York, and in 1767 the first medical school was opened in that city. In no other department of science, art, or literature has the advancement been completer or more substantial than that which the medical

profession shows between the opening of this first school in the city and the present time. The nucleus then was in a few young men secretly unravelling the complex mysteries of the human body in an obscure building long since swept out of existence—learning by dissection what can be learned in no other way, and yet compelled to exercise the caution of a thief in preventing discovery, so violent was the popular prejudice against the mutilation of the body for any purposes. The results now are seen in numerous colleges, which, in connection with hospitals unsurpassed by any in equipment, attract thousands of students from all parts of the continent, and which have gathered about them faculties composed of the most eminent surgeons and physicians the age has produced in the Western hemisphere. It would be difficult and hazardous to state the precise condition of medical science in America contrasted with the science abroad, but it may be said with entire veracity that no occupation in the United States stands higher numerically, social-

Never I see an old horse grow upwards into a new,
If ever I see a driver whose traps behind him flew,
'Twas that old horse, a-rompin' an' rushin' down the track,
An' that respectable milkman, a-tryin' to hold him back.

Away he dashed like a cyclone for the head of No. 3,
Gained the lead, an' kept it, an' steered his journey free;
Dodgin' the wheels an' horses, an' still on the keenest "silk,"
An' furnishin' all that district with good respectable milk.

Crowds a-yellin' an' runnin', and vainly hollerin', "Whoa!"
Milkman bracin' an' sawin', with never a bit o' show;
Firemen laughin' an' chucklin', and hollerin', "Good! go in!"
Hoss a-gettin' down to it, an' sweepin' along like sin.

Finally come where the fire was, halted with a "thud,"
Sent the respectable milkman heels over head in mud;
Watched till he see the engine properly workin' there—
After which he relinquished all interest in the affair.

Moped an' wilted an' dawdled—faded away once more;
Took up his old occ'pation of votin' life a bore;
Laid down in his harness, and—sorry I am to say—
The milkman he had drawn there drew his dead body away.

That's the whole o' my story: I've seen, more'n once or twice,
That poor dumb animals' actions are full of human advice;
An' if you ask what Flash taught, I simply answer you, then,
That poor old horse was a symbol of some intelligent men.



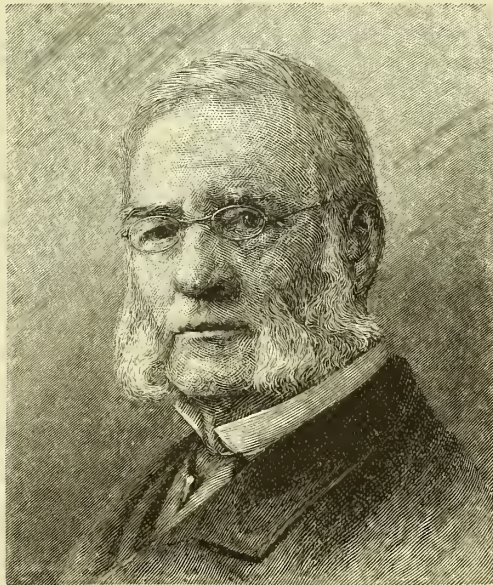


WILLIAM A. HAMMOND.

ly, or financially, than the medical profession. It may be added also that the facilities presented in New York for a medical education are such that a student finds no urgent necessity to cross the Atlantic in search of professional knowledge, and that the most successful members of American faculties are the graduates of American colleges. This is so well understood and appreciated that the catalogues of the New York schools contain the names of students who come from every State in the Union, from Peru, Chili, Central America, Mexico, Brazil, Canada, and actually, in a few instances, from France and Germany.

Of the six medical colleges in the city, which graduated upward of five hundred students at the Commencement last spring, four are allopathic, one is homœopathic, and one is eclectic. A seventh is for women. The University College is a medical branch of the University of the City of New York, and its inception was in 1838, when Martyn Paine, Alfred C. Post, Gunning S. Bedford, and A. Sydney Doane associated themselves for the purpose. First occupying the Stuyvesant Institute, on the west side of Broadway, near Bond, they removed in 1851 to a new building next to the Academy of Music, in Fourteenth Street, which was destroyed by fire in 1866, with its valuable collections in anatomy, obstetrics, chemistry, and materia medica. The college then

found quarters in the old New York Hospital until 1869, when it was transferred to its present site at the foot of East Twenty-sixth Street. Two events are notable in its history. The first clinique ever given in America was founded in the college by the late Valentine Mott, the professor of surgery, and it was principally through the zealous advocacy of Martyn Paine that the laws against the dissection of the human body were repealed. Previous to 1854, any one discovered dissecting a body was liable to imprisonment with hard labor, and the popular excitement against the practice was so great that on one occasion a mob was formed which threatened the lives of the professors and students, chasing them through the streets, and forcing them into the City Prison for refuge. The Legislature was indisposed to amend the law, but by persistent effort Dr. Paine succeeded in obtaining a repeal despite the opposition of the Common Council, the German and Irish Emigrant Societies, and other influential associations of laymen. Architecturally the college is superior to all others in the city. It has three large chemical and physiological laboratories, a dissecting-room with an area of three thousand square feet, a lecture theatre with seats for five hundred persons, and clinical wards for the use of



AUSTIN FLINT, SEN.

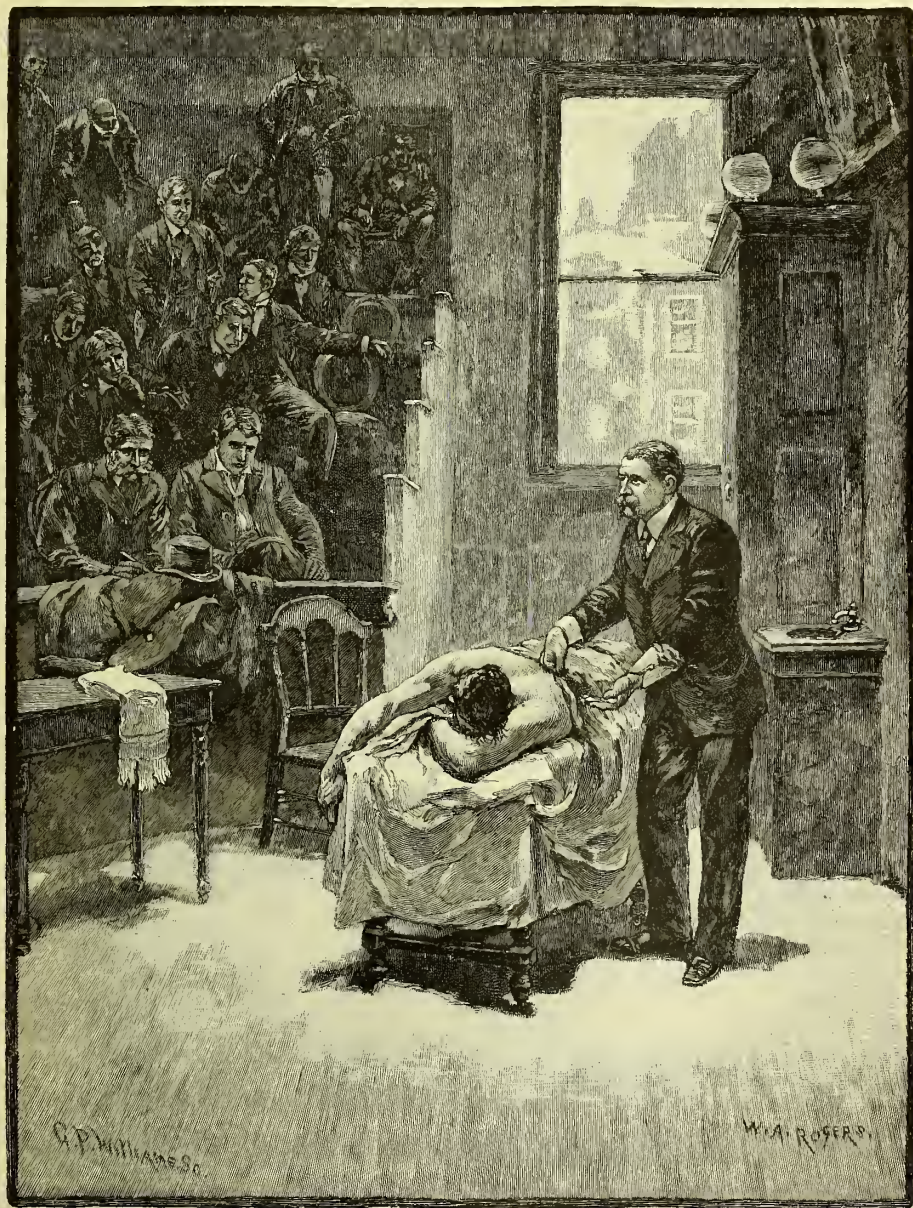
patients upon whom operations have been made. The collegiate year is divided into a preliminary winter session, opening in September, a regular winter session, opening in October, and a spring session. Five didactic lectures are given each day in the college building, embracing a complete course of medicine and surgery, both practical and elementary. Two clinical lectures are also given each day in either the amphitheatre of Bellevue Hospital or the Charity Hospital on Blackwell's Island. The facilities for clinical instruction which the charity hospitals afford give the medical colleges of the city their greatest value. Bellevue Hospital is immediately opposite the university, and in it more than seven thousand cases are treated annually, each case being open to the students. The hospital on Blackwell's Island usually contains about eight hundred cases, which are also open to the students for study and examination, and similar facilities are given at the various hospitals for fever, small-pox, epileptics, paralytics, and insanity.

Candidates for graduation must have attended two full courses of lectures in some medical college—the second course in the University College—and they must have studied medicine for three years under a recognized instructor. They are required to write and deposit with the dean a medical thesis, and to stand separate examinations in surgery, obstetrics, chemistry, the practice of medicine, anatomy, physiology, and materia medica. The examination of the academic attainments of students preliminary to their admission comprises English grammar and composition, vulgar and decimal fractions, simple equations in algebra, the first two books of Euclid, Latin grammar and translations, and as an optional study, Greek, French, German, or natural philosophy. A similar standard is adopted by the College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Bellevue Hospital College, both of which also charge about the same fees as the University—in the first session, five dollars for matriculation, ten dollars for dissections, and one hundred and forty dollars for a full course of lectures; in the second session, five dollars for matriculation, thirty dollars for graduation, and one hundred and forty dollars for lectures—making an aggregate of three hundred and thirty dollars. The professors hold private classes, at which attendance is optional, and

the charges for which are variable. The charges for a third course—also optional—are five dollars for matriculation, twenty dollars for dissections, and one hundred and five dollars for three series of summer recitations.

The compression which the exigencies of a magazine compel forbids anything more than an outline of the history, scope, and management of the three principal allopathic establishments for medical education in this city. The Woman's College, filling a unique and useful place, with a promise of future extension, is still small and tentative. It has fifty students and ten professors, and in 1882 ten women were graduated. The fees are much less than at the other colleges, being five dollars for matriculation, sixty dollars for lectures, ten dollars for the demonstrator, and ten dollars for a diploma. The annual revenues are about twelve thousand dollars, and the annual expenditures about ten thousand, but the college is hampered by a debt of seventy-two thousand dollars, the balance due on the purchase-money of the grounds and buildings. Mrs. C. S. Lozier is clinical professor on the diseases of women and children, which are the most prominent study, although the curriculum includes all that is taught in other colleges. The Eclectic College, with upward of two hundred students, is developing, and has recently taken possession of a commodious house in Livingston Place. The Homœopathic College, of which Dr. J. W. Dowling is dean, has about one hundred and sixty students, a brilliant faculty, and every facility for clinical instruction, especially at the Homœopathic Hospital on Ward's Island, which always contains about six hundred patients. A full description of the resources possessed and methods employed by each of these institutions would be interesting, but we are compelled to limit ourselves to the three colleges which furnish the dominant proportion of the students' colony.

The Bellevue College was organized in 1861, under the auspices of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction, with a view to availing itself of the immense resources for practical teaching in medicine afforded by the institutions in charge of the Commissioners; and the experiment of ingrafting a medical school upon a lay hospital has been conspicuously successful. It has graduated over three thousand

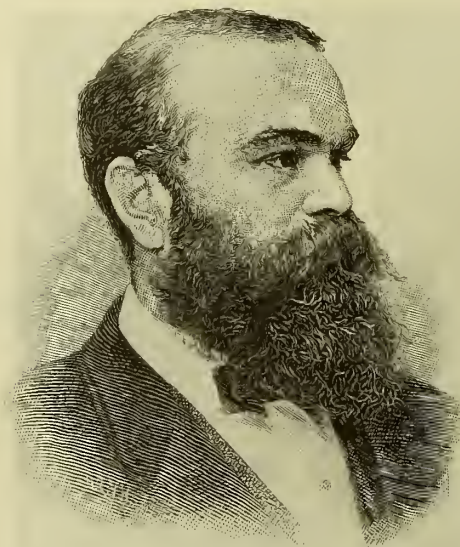


A CLINIQUE AT THE UNIVERSITY.

students since its foundation, including one hundred and eighteen in the spring of 1881. The opportunities for clinical instruction are the same as those possessed by the University College, and the faculty includes many very eminent men. The accommodations are inferior to those of the latter institution, but the theatre, laboratories, and dissecting-room are large.

The college has no debts, and no revenues of any kind except those accruing from the students' fees.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons, at the corner of Twenty-third Street and Fourth Avenue, is the medical department of Columbia College, and having been opened in 1807, is the oldest of the three institutions. Its faculty includes Wil-



J. C. DRAPER.

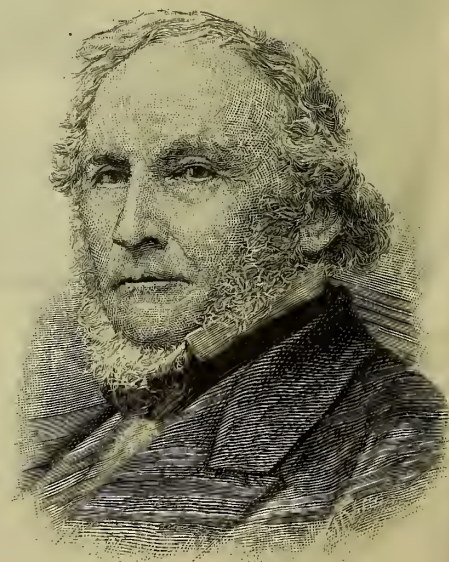
lard Parker, professor of clinical surgery; Charles F. Chandler, professor of chemistry; Edward C. Seguin, professor of diseases of the nervous system; Abraham Jacobi, professor of the diseases of children; H. B. Sands, professor of anatomy; and Alonzo Clark, professor of pathology and practical medicine. It shares with the University and Bellevue the clinical facilities of the charity hospitals, besides the New York, the Roosevelt, and several dispensaries and infirmaries, with which the members of its faculty are connected as consulting or visiting physicians.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Bellevue Hospital College, and the University College contribute over fifteen hundred students to the city's population, who come, as we have stated, from every part of the world—even from South Australia and India—and who have representatives among them of every political bias and social condition. The native Americans include a large proportion of the sons of poor farmers and artisans of the Southern and Western States, who, bringing with them little or no margin to the minimum of fees, sacrifice personal comfort, like young Spartans, to their ambition. In the neighborhood of the colleges there are many shabby lodging-houses which provide shelter and food for four dollars a week; and subsisting upon rations of a class at which a well-to-do laborer would complain, the young

doctor pursues his studies by the light of a kerosene lamp in the attic gloom of these caravansaries. The coldest winter finds some of the students trudging to lectures and demonstrations through snow and slush, without overcoats, and with shoes worn down to a papery condition of tenuity. But mixed with these plebeians are other young men of fortune and fashion, who dress exquisitely, belong to the clubs, and smoke, if a cigar, a choice Havana, or, if it is a pipe, an elaborate meerschaum, filled with aromatic perique and Turkish. No factions inspired by envious ill-will are bred by these contrasts, however.

The presence of medical students is not considered a desirable element in many large cities. They are apt to be lawless, exuberant, and addicted to nocturnal disorders. Mr. Robert Sawyer and Mr. Benjamin Allen are not the most satisfactory guests to landladies, nor the least troublesome neighbors to persons of quiet and early habits.

What with lectures, clinics, and recitations, besides practice in the laboratory and dissecting-room, the industrious student who means to be successful has little time for recreation except in the brief intervals between the retirement of one professor and the entrance of another, and the only period when he can conscien-



ALONZO CLARK.



MRS. C. S. LOZIER.

tiously rest is Sunday. The first lecture begins at nine o'clock in the morning, and the last is not concluded until five in the afternoon. At all hours until nine or ten at night students may be seen singly or in twos and threes entering or leaving the colleges, where the intricate secrets of physiology, the tissues, arteries, and nerves are revealed in the sickening atmosphere and amid the ghastly surroundings of the dissecting-room. But the atmosphere, though overpowering to a stranger at his initiation, is not percepti-

bly offensive to those accustomed to it, and the "subjects," instead of being repulsive to the embryo surgeons, possess an absorbing interest, and all the beauty of a perfect mechanism. There is no dearth of "subjects" in New York, where hundreds die unrecognized in the wards of the charity hospitals, and many are picked up in the rivers with no voice or record to tell how they came to their end.

Perhaps it is because their opportunities for relaxation are so few that as soon as a lecture is concluded and the professor

has been applauded, the students become transformed from an attentive, note-taking, intelligent audience into a pack of boys with a surplusage of exuberance welling over all decorum and restraint. A careless, fanatic, noisy spirit takes possession of the throng. The air is filled with cat-calls, whistling, and vociferations. A sign lettered so plainly that a blind man might grasp its significance by intuition announces that smoking is positively forbidden, but for all that young Æsculapius flings one leg over the back or arm of his seat, and in an attitude neither graceful nor explicable easy, puffs clouds of smoke out of a skeleton's-head bowl, which is a common affectation of his kind. He does not lack companions in this infraction of discipline, and in a very few minutes the amphitheatre is dim with

the exudations of cigars, cigarettes, and pipes. Some isolated young Hippocrates almost inaudibly breathes an air from a popular operetta, which is immediately caught by a number of others, who shrilly whistle it and thunderously beat time with their feet. Young Galen rises from his seat, and with mock gestures declaims on the unseemly behavior of those around him, until his oratory is prematurely arrested by a well-directed ball of paper which knocks his hat over his eyes. Young Herophilus from a corner bellows some unintelligible message to young Erasistratus opposite, and a few quieter ones, whose concentrative power touches one, may actually separate themselves from the noise, and find reading possible.

The professor of otology has retired at

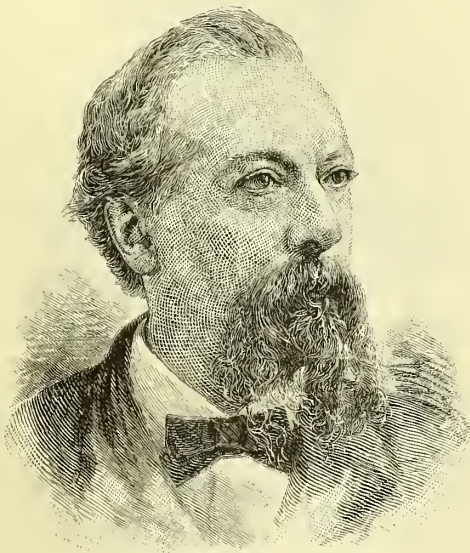


OUT-OF-DOOR PATIENTS.

ten minutes before three, and at three precisely, the faculty being always punctual to the minute, the professor of chemistry enters, and is greeted with applause demonstrations, which are sometimes so prolonged and fervid that they cause a suspicion of burlesque insincerity. The professor bows amiably and familiarly. The enormous blackboards at the back of the rostrum are discovered to be sliding doors, and when they are open a laboratory is seen, crowded with apparatus, among which the professor's two assistants are at work. "Mulberry Calculus," says the professor—"MULBERRY CALCULUS," he reiterates distinctly, meanwhile walking leisurely across the stage; and when he has announced his theme, the audience suddenly falls into an attitude of attention and interest. Young Æsculapius smothers his tobacco and puts his pipe in his pocket, from which he brings forth his notebook; the air from *Pinafore* is heard no more, and the face of young Galen, so recently laughing with mimicry, becomes gravely attentive. The bar which separates the professor from the students is used by those who are in the front row as a footstool, and this is the only impropriety noticeable. The professor is over six feet in height—a graceful man, with easy manners and a pleasant face. The left sleeve of his frock-coat is empty, and swings loosely as he bends over the table, but he manages his right arm and left armpit so cleverly that his deficiency causes him very little inconvenience. His voice is agreeable, his phrases are well chosen, and his style is lucid. From time to time he interpolates a humorous suggestion or allusion, as, in describing the various sources of lime, he exhibits an oyster shell, and apologizes for the fact that it is not a half shell with a luscious Shrewsbury upon it. He speaks vivaciously of the humors of student life, and the hour slips by very pleasantly; he bows as gracefully as a courtier before the throne, and retires; the blackboard doors close again, and again the students lapse into Babel. It is Dr. R. Ogden Doremus, the famous analytic chemist, whom we have been describing; and he is succeeded by Dr. Van Buren, professor of the principles of surgery—a bland gentleman, with gray hair and beard, who speaks in a low-toned voice, and looks like Dom Pedro. The next lecturer is Dr. Austin

Flint, Jun., professor of physiology and physiological anatomy, who is severe and imperative in manner, and disturbing to timid students.

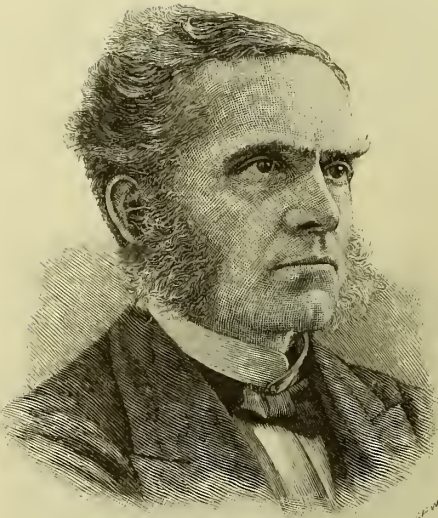
These are all members of the faculty of the Bellevue Hospital College, as also



ALEXANDER B. MOTT.

are Fordyce Barker, professor of clinical midwifery and the diseases of women; Isaac Taylor, professor of obstetrics; Austin Flint, Sen., professor of clinical medicine; Lewis A. Sayre, professor of orthopedic surgery; Alexander B. Mott, professor of clinical and operative surgery; A. A. Smith, professor of materia medica; Joseph D. Bryant, professor of general, descriptive, and surgical anatomy; and Edward G. Janeway, professor of pathological anatomy and histology, diseases of the nervous system, and clinical medicine.

Now let us transfer ourselves to the University College, which is across the way. The faculty here is not less brilliant in reputation than that of the sister institution. William A. Hammond is professor of diseases of the mind and nervous system; Alfred C. Post, professor of clinical surgery; Charles Inslee Pardee, professor of diseases of the ear; John C. Draper, professor of chemistry; Alfred L. Loomis, professor of pathology and the practice of medicine; William Darling, professor of anatomy; J. Williston Wright, professor of surgery; J. W. S. Arnold,



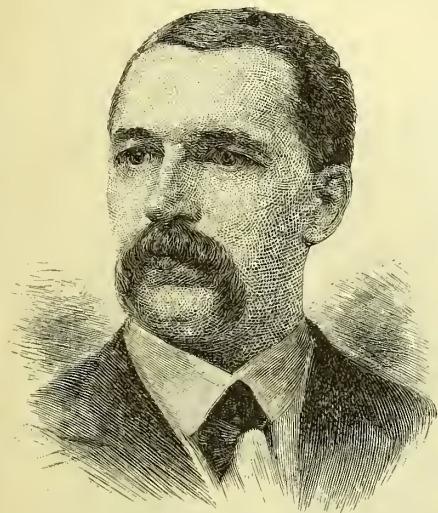
STEPHEN SMITH.

professor of physiology and histology; William H. Thomson, professor of materia medica and therapeutics; William M. Polk, professor of obstetrics; Faneuil D. Weisse, professor of practical and surgical anatomy; D. B. St. John Roosa, professor of ophthalmology; Stephen Smith, professor of orthopedic surgery; J. W. S. Gouley, professor of diseases of the genito-urinary system; Montrose E. Pallen, professor of gynecology; Henry G. Piffard, professor of dermatology; A. E. Macdonald, professor of medical jurisprudence; James L. Little, professor of clinical surgery; L. A. Stimson, professor of pathological anatomy; and Joseph E. Winters, demonstrator of anatomy. The theatre of the University College is the most cheerful and commodious of all. It is abundantly lighted and ventilated; the walls and ceilings are relieved with stencilled frescoes; the acoustic properties are admirable, and all the seats are comfortable folding-chairs. When we enter, a thickset, dark-complexioned gentleman in a simple business suit is talking to the audience, which is absorbed in his utterances. Judged by appearance—a conventional but misleading measure—he might be a successful merchant or a salesman addressing the Chamber of Commerce on a question of exports. He does not look in the least didactic, but he has a strong head and an earnest, resolute manner. He speaks distinctly, and with a pronounced “American” accent. On a pad-

ded lounge before him in the centre of the stage a man is stretched out, naked to the waist, and on the exposed parts of the body—on the breasts and between them—he administers a few blows with his knuckles. He then turns the man over and strikes him under the shoulder-blades, listening for the result, and describing it to the audience. The professor is Dr. Loomis, the celebrated pathologist, and the patient is a sufferer from gastritis produced by alcoholism. The professor, after explaining the case, directed his assistant to prepare a medicine for the patient, the properties of which were explained and described to the students; and a little girl was then brought in from the anteroom, where other patients were in waiting, willing to serve at the clinique in return for advice from a noted physician. The child was pale, wasted, and poorly clad. Her mother came into the theatre with her, and wanted to screen her from the students. The professor rapped upon her and listened, and asked the woman many questions as to the manner in which she lived. She had pain in her side, a poor appetite, and she slept in a basement. “Lack of nutrition, that’s what ails her,” said the professor, when he had made his diagnosis. “She has not enough food, and has been brought up without that attention to simple cleanliness upon which health depends. The pain in her side is a result of the impoverishment of her system, and its inability to supply Nature with sufficient force for the maintenance of her



WILLIAM VAN BUREN.



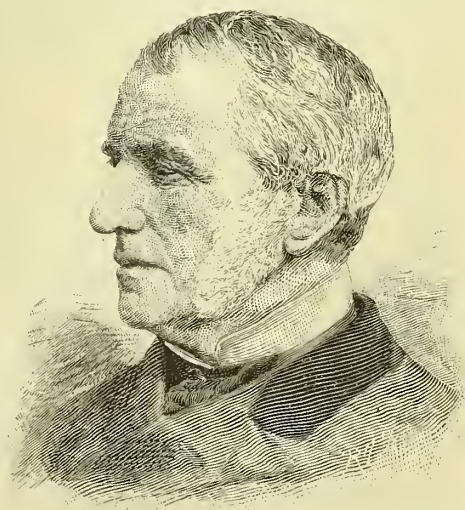
ALFRED L. LOOMIS.

processes. Give the child some iron." Thus by practical examples the professor teaches his class the principles of pathology, and shows them the method of the examinations by which the nature of a disease is ascertained, and a boisterous round of applause follows his closing words.

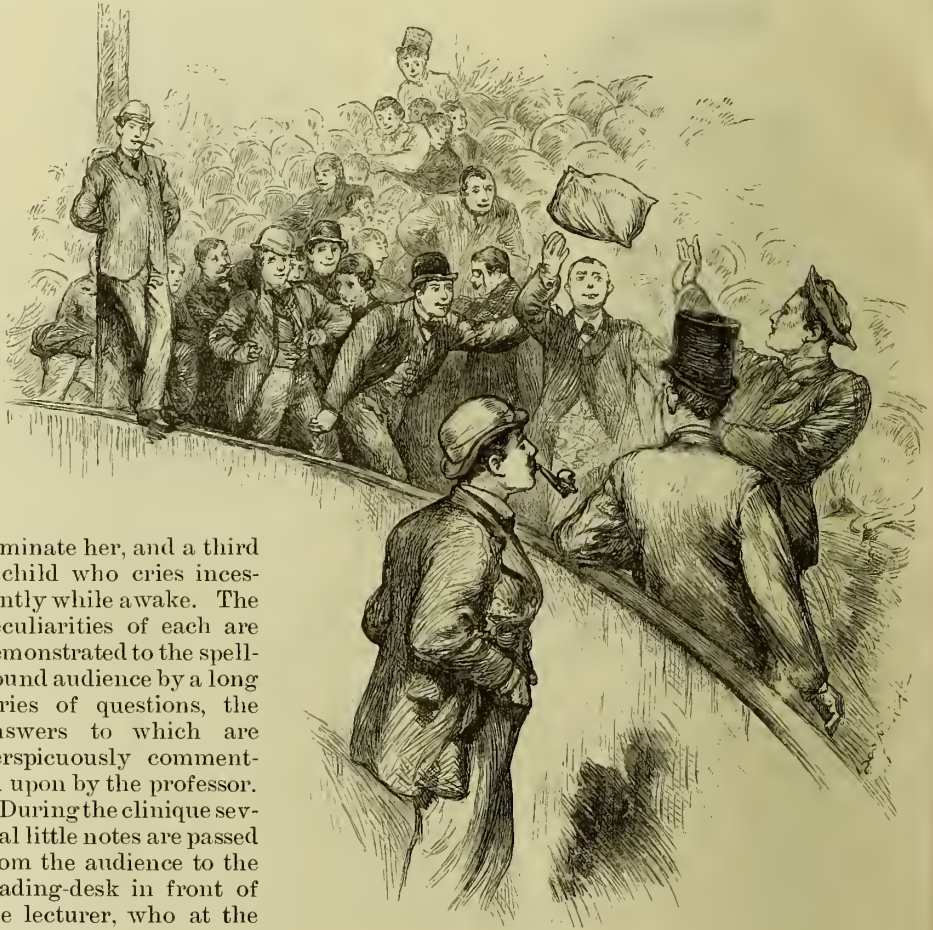
A moment later the students of the University prove that they are of the same playful disposition as the students of Bellevue. They whistle, sing, smoke, and whoop. A small pillow is discovered in the rostrum, and a demure-looking young person, who has been contemplating it from afar, and speculating upon the varied uses to which it might be put, strides over the rail and secures it. Returning to his seat, he poises it and threatens to dash it at the men in the row below him, who duck in anticipation of it, while several others in the row above, who are not threatened, grin with delight. But by a quick, sly movement he aims it at the latter, and it strikes them with a ricochet movement, which takes the hats off at least half a dozen, and then a battle for the possession of the missile begins. It flies from head to head, and hand to hand, up the theatre, down the theatre, and diagonally; it sends a "swell" plug hat spinning, and brings color into many faces, and its course is followed by shrieks of laughter, mingled with indescribable cat-calls. The pursuit of it becomes fierce;

but after a lapse of five minutes a whirling electric bell is heard, and it is abandoned. A portly gentleman enters the stage, who from the firmness of his tread and the erectness of his body might be a general reviewing his troops. He is massively built, and has a full round face, a clipped head, and a heavy mustache. He is dressed in a fashionable frock-coat and light trousers. His hair is nearly gray, and as he strides across the stage, waiting for the applause to cease, he looks more like a general than ever. His manner somehow implies that time is very precious with him, and he talks in a rapid but rather husky voice. Time is precious with him; his private practice is enormous; he is called to testify as an expert in courts of law; and his reputation is so wide that patients come hundreds of miles to see him. It bespeaks a prodigious degree of vigor, endurance, and industry that he finds time for any connection with the college; but more than this, he is a voluminous writer of books on his specialty, a famous entertainer, a frequent diner-out, and an omnivorous reader of newspapers and popular magazines. Very few men combine the successful pursuit of science and literature with the pleasures of society as Dr. Hammond does.

Three cases are brought in from the anteroom—one is a man suffering from paralysis of the tongue, lips, palate, and left leg, another a woman imbued with a dread that whatever she touches will con-



WILLARD PARKER.



AT PLAY.

taminate her, and a third a child who cries incessantly while awake. The peculiarities of each are demonstrated to the spell-bound audience by a long series of questions, the answers to which are perspicuously commented upon by the professor.

During the clinique several little notes are passed from the audience to the reading-desk in front of the lecturer, who at the close reads and briefly answers them. They ask for a variety of information, relevant and irrelevant, pertinent and impertinent. The professor then bows, and strides off the stage.

Soon after his disappearance the sliding doors open as in the other college, revealing the complicated paraphernalia of a chemical laboratory, and a massive gentleman saunters on to the stage as he might saunter into a billiard-room after dinner. He has the complacent manner of a person of leisure, who finds all the action his nature craves in the evolution of smoke from a good cigar. A luminous smile plays about his face, from which flows a patriarchal beard; his eyes twinkle, and his voice, though unmusical, is pleasant. He beckons the students who are scattered, urging them to fill the front rows. "Come down here, and I'll ask you questions; it's the best

thing in the world for you." In their own vernacular, the students do not "see it"; they are not anxious to be quizzed, but after some further pressure they put themselves into compacter form. He begins his lecture with an interrogation, and one of the audience essays an answer without premeditation. "Hold on!" cries the professor, good-naturedly; "it isn't half as easy as you imagined. I twisted it to make it interesting for you;" and the proper answer is some time in forthcoming. When the answer is given, the professor adds to it, paraphrases it, eliminates words inexact in meaning, and substitutes others of the precisely correct shade; by hints and signs he attracts a blunderer from a false conclusion to a proper one; and having drawn him to that point, he expands it with fluency

and emphasis, as he walks to and fro across the rostrum, now beating his hand on the rail in accentuation of the syllables, then folding his arms as he sits on the corner of a table and expounds the electric and chemic laws with the bland simplicity of a gossip at the club. This is Dr. John C. Draper, the chemist, and so far from being a man of leisure, as his manner implies, he accomplishes a wonderful variety of work in his private practice, as a contributor to literature, and as an active member of the faculty.

When the lectures are over the students hasten to the dissecting-room or laboratories. There are few days when they do

eminent professors are of the opinion that unless the State enforces a grade of qualification for all practitioners, a proper standard of medical education can not be established. An embryo physician, poorly educated and of inferior mental capacity, comes to a city in search of a diploma, which will enable him to practice in a country town. He visits each of the colleges, and obtains from each its catalogue and prospectus. At one he is told how exacting the examiners are, and at another he is assured that the course is easy, simply entailing attendance at a few lectures. He of course attaches himself to the latter; and the higher the standard of



LECTURE IN THE WOMEN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE.

not have an opportunity to see an important operation in one of the amphitheatres, and the dispensing for out-door poor in connection with Bellevue Hospital also claims a share of their attention.

There is a singular breadth in the definition of what constitutes a physician, and according to Ordonaux the term may be applied to "any one who publicly announces himself as a practitioner, and undertakes to treat the sick, either with or without reward." Wide indeed are the gates opened to charlatans by this laxity of nomenclature, and many of the most

requirements in a college is, the more its treasury suffers from the diversion of students into inferior institutions. Each college fixes its own course of study, determines the qualifications of candidates for graduation, and finally confers a degree upon these candidates. "The consequences of the system are seen," as one of the faculty of the University College said to the writer, "in a country overrun with charlatans, some holding diplomas, others ignoring them as worthless, but all legally qualified to exercise the divine art of healing."

CERTAIN NEW YORK HOUSES.



The Artistic Young Lady.

HERE are, perhaps, no two words more frequently on the lips of the present generation than these two: "Internal Decoration." It seems like a poor and vapid plagiarism to talk of Renaissance nowadays, but we can not, as we stand in the full flood-tide of modern art improvement and beauty, as applied to household art, use any other word. We can not look through the tasteful and artistic interiors of New York without a pleasurable sense of having lived through a very dark night, to be rewarded with an exceedingly fresh and brilliant morning.

Those who have seen even three decades will remember the monstrous ugliness of the past—the floriated carpets, heavy frescoes, inartistic "reps," the crimson satin curtains against white walls, the staring papers, and the furnace holes in the floor. This dream is scarcely over. To Dante Rossetti, Burne-Jones, and William Morris do the lovers of artistic interiors owe an immortal debt, for they started in England an art crusade against